

## Why to do Research?

Ashish Ranade

Recently I have had a chance to listen to a talk on why to do research? I was intrigued by the question. After listening to the talk I realised there are various reasons for which people do research. One may wish to do research for getting answer to the daunting question that they may have faced in their clinical practice. On the other hand, others may do research, to have better solutions for existing problems. After all, every research in medicine is centred on better patient care. It helps us to develop niche in your specialty. The road to successful research is not very smooth and there may be obstacles on it. But one can always start with a smaller goal to achieve and then go on building on it to achieve more. As Edison has said that failing to make bulb for 99 times has taught him what not to do and helped to succeed 100th time. The next question is who can do research? Research is not a monopoly of the teaching hospitals. There are several of us working in non-academic settings and are doing excellent clinical work. Doctors working in non academic settings can certainly contribute to the research and there are several examples around us who have done it. How do we start? To begin with it very important to identify a question that will be answered by the research. Thereafter we carry out literature search to find out what has been or has not been done on the subject. It will be a good idea to have a mentor or someone experienced to discuss about the study question. Once the study question is formulated, the conduct the study is relatively easy as they say well begun is half done.

We, at the Maharashtra Orthopaedic Association are happy to help with any research, manuscript preparation, publication. In future, we are planning to have a workshop on the same. I take this opportunity to appeal all the members to contribute at least one article per year to their journal.

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